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JAN. 17 RWANDA OPERATIONAL SUPPORT GROUP MEETING
(Non-AOJ) Assistance to Rwanda

BACKGROUND

RELEASED IN FULL

The World Bank Arrears

The World Bank has obtained donor commitments of \$9.55 million to meet its goal of clearing Rwanda's arrears through June. The USG's \$2.5 million contribution was disbursed December 27. All other donors have now made or (in one case, Canada) are about to make their contributions, and the Bank has sent the paperwork for the \$50 million emergency credit to the Bank Board for approval. The Board is scheduled to meet on the emergency credit between January 31 and February 7. Mr. Aguirre-Sacasa (Director for Indian Ocean and Central African countries at the World Bank) told AF/C that he understands the urgency and will try to complete the credit by the end of January. The Bank is reviewing its pipeline programs with the GOR, and hopes to release \$50 million in pipeline funding during 1995. This is in addition to the \$50 million emergency credit.

Bilateral (Non-AOJ) Aid

AID's bilateral development program breaks down as follows:

- o \$600,000 to provide critically needed office equipment and vehicles for the Ministries of Justice and Interior. These funds have already been disbursed and USAID/Uganda is handling the procurement process on an expedited basis.
- o \$3.4 million of FY94 funds re-allocated to help refurbish key GOR ministries and assist them in providing basic services to the population. AID considers this the first tranche of its FY95 DIG activities.
- o Of the FY95 funding of \$5 million, up to \$4 million is to be allocated to DIG activities, including assistance to the justice system (discussed in a separate memo).
- o At least \$1 million of FY95 development funding is to be allocated to much-needed orphan/child survival projects (a Congressional earmark).

The UNDP roundtable will provide the USG and other donors with the opportunity to share information on their development programs and ensure coordination, minimize duplication of effort, and identify gaps. ROSG members were to provide a preview of their aid programs to us prior to the Geneva meeting so that we could incorporate the information into a consolidated aid matrix. So far, six countries have provided information in response to this request. However, much of the information relates to humanitarian aid or peacekeeping/tribunal/monitors contributions and is of limited utility in identifying areas for USG cooperation on the development side.

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TALKING POINTS

- In order to help resolve the crisis, the international community must help the Rwandan government create conditions inside the country that will facilitate refugee return and reconciliation.
- As we move on the continuum from disaster to development, donors must shift their focus to increasing aid inside Rwanda, in order to help restore basic services and facilitate some return to economic normalcy. This, in turn, will promote stability.
- At the same time, we must monitor the Rwandan government's performance to encourage it to uphold its commitment to the principles of Arusha.
- In this regard, our contribution to help pay off the arrears was conditioned on the GOR appointing a point person on Rwanda and agreeing to allow free and unlimited access to UNAMIR and human rights monitors. The GOR has met these conditions.
- However, the GOR needs resources in order to meet its commitments. Accordingly, we do not believe that excessive conditionality is appropriate, as it will put the GOR in a Catch-22 situation.
- The UNDP roundtable offers an excellent opportunity for the GOR to outline its needs and future plans to the donors, and for the donors to let the GOR know how the donors can assist and what concerns they may have.
- We should make the most of this opportunity, while keeping in mind that our efforts must be aimed in the end at creating conditions inside Rwanda that will help bring about reconciliation and return of the refugees.
- Using the information provided by many of you, we have prepared and circulated a draft matrix consolidating information on our respective assistance programs. We hope this will be a useful source of information for our discussions on coordinating aid. We welcome comments on and additional contributions to the matrix.

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